

CITY HAS \$150,000,000 IN SIGHT FOR SUBWAYS, SAYS MR. PRENDERGAST

Comptroller Declares New York Can Build Independent System Without Neglecting Other Works --No Need for Surrender To Traction Ring.

Comptroller William A. Prendergast, after a careful examination of the city's financial resources, declares there is no need for the city to surrender to the Traction Ring.

Mr. Prendergast says the city has \$150,000,000 available for the building of an independent system. The estimate of the Public Service Commission for the Triborough was \$17,000,000. Mr. Prendergast declares that the Triborough can be built for \$127,000,000. In other words the city has \$23,000,000 more than is needed to establish competition and defeat monopoly.

In the following statement, which Mr. Prendergast prepared for the readers of The Evening World, this is made clear:

BY WILLIAM A. PRENDERGAST.

The consideration of the Interborough proposition by the Board of Estimate has again occasioned much speculation regarding the city's ability to finance the construction of an independent subway. Those who are minimizing the city's ability in this respect and calling attention to the shortness of funds are the very people who were most voluble in denouncing the Interborough system only a little more than a year ago. They were then protesting that the city should proceed with the building of an independent system, and this at a time when the constitutional amendment compelling the self-sustaining rapid transit bonds had NOT been finally approved by the people. It was supposed that the passage of the exemption amendment and the enabling legislation enacted last spring would to a great extent silence the opposition to an independent system.

An influence which has created doubt in the minds of some well disposed people regarding the wisdom of constructing an independent system is the erroneous impression as to its cost conveyed by the report of the Chamber of Commerce Committee on Rapid Transit, made at its meeting on Nov. 3, for the city during the next five years, through enhanced assessments upon real estate, amounting to \$172,000,000. Assuming that \$12,000,000 of this amount were applied annually to subway construction, it would increase the amount available for this purpose during the five years to \$60,000,000, or a total of \$130,300,250.10. This would leave, therefore, for other purposes during the next five years \$112,300,000, or an average of \$22,460,000 per annum.

ONLY \$20,000,000 A YEAR NEEDED.

It has been the opinion of competent judges that it would not be possible to carry on the work of subway construction at a rate that would involve the expenditure of more than \$20,000,000 per annum; so that if this estimate be correct the avails which in my judgment could be used for subway construction would cover operations during the next six years.

It is for the city to decide to what extent it will use its available funds for subway purposes. It must not be forgotten that in the very near future an application will be made for the exemption of self-sustaining bonds. It is estimated that this exemption when allowed will cover some \$20,000,000. I do not believe that it will be necessary to employ all this money for dock purposes, and, intensely as I appreciate the necessity of fostering the commercial interests of New York through the introduction of modern dockage facilities, I am firmly of the opinion that the transit question is of greater importance. With this in view a recent opinion obtained by me from the Corporation Counsel, which reads as follows, is of great interest.

"It seems probable that the courts would construe the language used both in the constitutional provision and in Chapter 256 of the Laws of 1910 to mean that the additional borrowing capacity secured by the exclusion of indebtedness incurred prior to Jan. 1, 1910, for either rapid transit or dock purposes may be used for the acquisition or construction of properties to be used for either of such purposes, as the proper authorities of the city may determine. For example, an increase in the city's borrowing capacity, or its ability to incur further debts by the exclusion of dock bonds, might be utilized for rapid transit purposes, and vice versa."

AS TO COST OF NEW SUBWAY.

This means that if necessary half of the prospective \$60,000,000 available from the exemption of self-sustaining dock bonds could be used for rapid transit purposes. TOTAL AVAILABLE COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR TRAM PURPOSES OF \$10,000,000.

The cost of the Triborough system, as planned by the Public Service Commission, involving the expensive construction represented by the standard tube is \$147,000,000. If the Public Service Commission considers that it is perfectly proper to hand over the greater part of the proposed Triborough route to the Interborough Company and permit that company to install a type of tube much less expensive than the standard type, why should the city not use a less expensive form of tube?

Engineers who have examined the plans and specifications of the Triborough, as prepared by the engineers of the Public Service Commission, report that the separate tube idea can be preserved in the building of the Triborough route, and at the same time, through modifications of the original plans, without serious loss of time, effect a saving of \$20,000,000.

It will therefore be seen that the TRIBOROUGH ROUTE WOULD NOT COST MORE THAN ESTIMATED \$120,000,000. From the figures given in this statement, what reason is there to doubt the city's financial capacity to undertake this burden?

Eight die in burning wreck in England.

KIRKBY-STEPHEN, England, Dec. 23.—Eight passengers were killed, some of them instantly, and the others burned to death, and twenty-five more injured in the wreck of the Scotch Express near Hawes Junction today. The express carried 100 persons bound for their homes in Scotland to spend Christmas. It was running at 40 miles an hour when near the junction it collided with a pilot engine and was derailed.

Fire broke out in the wreckage and the whole train with the exception of the locomotive and a rear baggage car was consumed. The wreckage was thought at first that but two persons had been killed and that the others had had time to escape before the flames swept through the coaches. A search of the debris, however, resulted in the discovery of charred bodies and the time when the whole wreckage had been gone through eight bodies had been recovered.

Most of the bodies were burned beyond recognition. Among the dead was a little girl who perished in the flames before the eyes of her parents, who were helpless to save her.

The scene of the accident was high up in the Fennine Hills, the lofty section traversed by a railway in England. The isolation of the wreck caused some delay before physicians could reach the place.

DEAD BESIDE TRACK.

Diamond Pin on Victim of Train in Bronx.

The body of a badly-mangled man was found beside the tracks of the New York and New Haven Railroad at One Hundred and Forty-second street and Southern Boulevard today. There was \$2.15 in his pockets and a diamond pin in his necktie.

The man was about thirty-five years old, stout, and five feet three in height. He had black hair, dark complexion and brown eyes. The clothing was a black overcoat and suit, white shirt, gray tie, and a pair of shoes.

PHILS CURED IN 10 TO 14 DAYS.

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PROMOTION FOR 78 FIREMEN WALDO'S CHRISTMAS GIFT

Wives and Sweethearts Gather at Headquarters to Congratulate Lucky Men.

FOLLOW EXAMINATION.

Largest Number of Advancements Made at One Time in Department's History.

Seventy-eight members of the New York Fire Department met at a real Santa Claus, in the person of Fire Commissioner Rhinelander Waldo, at Fire Hall today. After presenting each with a certificate of promotion he bade them keep up the work that had secured advancement for them, and sent them to their respective stations rejoicing.

Twenty-three assistant firemen were made firemen with advances in salaries from \$2,160 to \$2,500; twenty-eight firemen of the first grade were made assistant firemen, increasing their salaries from \$1,440 to \$1,760 a year, and twenty-seven men were made engineers with an advance of \$200 in pay.

Commissioner Waldo, Deputies Johnson and O'Keefe and Deputy Chiefs Ahearn and Lally received the promoted men in the large hall outside the Commissioner's office.

Effective To-Morrow.

The promotions are effective to-morrow. The fortunate men united in saying that their certificates, accompanied by handshakes of the commissioner, as he presented them, were the best Christmas presents the Fire Department ever gave out.

A large delegation of wives, sweethearts, relatives and friends of the men were present to congratulate them on their good fortune. Chief Croker attended but made no address.

Several of the men promoted have records for bravery. James W. Heffernan, No. 2 on the list of firemen, was one of the heroes of the Windsor Hotel fire. William Dugan and Edward L. Cooke rescued Henry Keene, a brother of James H. Keene, at a fire at Fifth avenue and Thirtieth street three years ago. They got Mr. Keene to the ground in safety by using scaling ladders. Frank G. Riley rescued an old woman from the fourth floor of a burning building in West Thirtieth street a year ago by creeping along a window ledge.

Of the assistant firemen James T. Ferris has three rescues to his credit. Denis J. Curtin, first on the list of firemen, got the highest mark in the examinations.

In his address Commissioner Waldo said:

No Favoritism.

"In promoting you men I wish to assure you that merit and your own personal work alone have won advancement."

"All appointments in the present administration have been made in the order in which certified by the Civil Service as the result of competitive examinations. The strict adherence to this rule eliminates the possibility of favoritism and other improper influences."

"You have worked hard and long for this reward. You have always been ready to respond when the fire alarm was sounded and were ready to risk your lives for the protection of others. Remember that your future depends entirely upon your personal ability to make good. Among you are the chiefs of the future."

The citizens of New York rely on you, for the high standard of heroism and devotion to duty which has been shown by this department in the past.

"It gives me much pleasure to promote you today, and wish you success and good fortune in your new positions."

Promoted to Foreman.

The men promoted to foreman—Dennis J. Curtin, James W. Heffernan, William Dugan, Edward L. Cooke, George L. McKenna, William H. Cooney, Patrick Walsh, John J. Buckley, James A. Hagen, Francis G. Riley, Edward L. Cooke, William E. Bechtold, Timothy W. Crowley, Robert E. Keene, Eugene H. Foley, John J. O'Connell, Daniel J. O'Connor, No. 1; Thomas V. Madigan, Elmer Mustard, James J. Tierman, Alexander Boyd, Joseph M. Biggers, William B. Watts.

Promoted to assistant foreman: Garrett B. Decker, Frederick Hermann, Benjamin Parcell, Thomas M. Kelly, George J. Kenney, Frank P. Haley, Harry W. Morris, James T. Ferris, Oliver P. Hawkins, Toby Franks, Thomas P. Neuman, John H. Liddy, Edward P. McNally, John J. Power, William L. Stevens, John K. Omond, Herman Weigel, Julius W. Dietrich, James P. Hayes, Emanuel Goldsmith, Moe Isaacs, James B. McEvoy, James M. Redden, Charles A. Miller, John J. Clancy, William H. Haupt, Joseph P. Dowdell, Patrick H. McCabe, John F. Abbott.

Promoted to Engineer: John J. Blouin, Newman C. Engelhardt, Walter P. Yarrow, Charles Waldorf, Albert A. Hauser, Albert Ott, William A. Davis, Patrick J. Healy, Alfred J. Sheldrake, Edward J. MacFarland, Clarence E. Hunt, Harry Knapp, James M. Hunt, John P. Murphy, J. McCarthy, John Coady Jr., Charles J. E. Dougherty, Eli A. Dunn, August Sommer, John J. Clancy, No. 2; John J. Walsh, No. 1; Michael J. Kelley, Joseph Skelly, John Gorry, Francis H. Kierman, Joseph P. McWilliams, Thomas Harding.

To Cut Up Hurling Firms.

MIDDELTON, N. Y., Dec. 23.—The disposal sale of 100 head of Holstein cattle by the Hartman estate is made because of a decision to cut the Cove Valley farms in Woodbury into small holdings and establish a high class cow only for people doing business in New York City.

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Commissioner Waldo Giving Promotion As Christmas Present to a Fireman



Celebration Features of City's Triple Christmas

TO-DAY, DEC. 24.

Closing of Exchanges. Christmas party of boys and girls of New York Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 7 o'clock P. M., No. 207 Fourth avenue.

Christmas entertainment, children's ward, New York Hospital, No. 8 West Sixteenth street.

Pete de l'Arbre de Noel of the Societe Francaise de Bienfaisance, Terrace Garden, 8 o'clock P. M.

TO-MORROW, DEC. 25.

Christmas mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Solemn high mass for night workers, St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, Thirty-first street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, half-past 2 o'clock in the morning.

Choral Christmas mass for night workers, St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church, Duane street and City Hall place, half-past 2 A. M.

MONDAY, DEC. 26.

Little Mothers' dinner, given by Frank Tilford, Murray Hill Lyceum, Third avenue and Thirty-fourth street, 1 P. M.

Distribution of Christmas baskets, Salvation Army, Grand Central Palace, beginning at 10 A. M.

Annual Christmas dinner for newsmen at Brace Memorial Lodging House, No. 14 New Chambers street, 7 P. M.

Chinese Babies Celebrate.

Twenty or more Chinese babies had a celebration yesterday in the basement of the Mariners' Temple, Henry and Oliver streets. They were pupils of the Morningstar Kindergarten, and none is more than six years old. Most of them were in native costume, and many mothers were there to encourage them in the games and songs.

Gifts and on the tree were gifts they had made with their own hands for parents and friends. The kindergarten is the only one of its kind east of San Francisco.

Hundreds of visitors attended the Christmas celebration in the large play-rooms at the top of the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled Children, Lexington avenue and Forty-second street, yesterday afternoon.

There were 200 boys and girls, some just able to hobble about, others in barrows and invalid chairs. There was a small stage and all the performers were cripples. The main feature was "Santa Claus's Visit" by the little actors. The presents descended from the ceiling in an airship. Each child received one of his or her own choosing, from watches and cameras to gold rings, trunks and toy planes. There was also a twenty-foot tree.

Most of the entertainments will be to-morrow and Monday. The Salvation Army to-morrow will distribute twenty tons of chickens, ten tons of bread and vast quantities of other edibles at the Grand Central Palace in Manhattan and at the Army's Washington street headquarters in Brooklyn.

Postmaster Morgan has taken on 400 extra carriers and 200 extra clerks to handle the 120,000 extra bags of Christmas mail expected to arrive to-day from Europe.

A grateful discovery of how prices that they can buy provisions at lower prices than have prevailed. Turkey, ranging from 25 to 30 cents a pound, roasting chickens from 18 to 20 cents a pound, and ducks from 15 to 20 cents a pound, celery 50 cents a bunch, apples 20 cents a box, 4 1/2 dozen, Florida oranges 35 cents a dozen, Canned plum pudding sells from 10 cents an individual can to 25 cents for a can for a family of six. Minicement is put up in 19-cent packages and 75-cent casks.

Only Two Trips or Less.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—President Taft will travel only twice this winter. He will go to New York in January. On Feb. 12 he will go to Springfield, Ill., to participate in the Lincoln celebration.

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"DIPPY" PHONES

(Continued from First Page.)

and waited until somebody at the other end of the wire answered. "Is that you, Ray?" he said. "Well, say, listen, I'm going to do a gun croak. What? Sure, right now? If you hang on there half a second you'll hear it come off."

Before a gun could reach him he had the pistol out of his coat pocket. He shoved the muzzle into his face and fired a shot. But a hand, that trembles so makes for a bad aim. The lead only tore a hole through Dippy's lower jaw. For the fourth time, Dippy using his brain as his target, had scored a clean miss.

He swayed back and forth a second, and then slumped down on the floor. The others propped him in a chair. A handy longbow ran to get a policeman. Like the careful man he is, Brown replaced the phone receiver on the hook and instantly the bell began to ring. Jimmy took the receiver down again and answered: "Hello!"

"It's Ray," gasped Dippy, "memorize answer."

It was Ray and she was quite excited if one might judge by her tone. They had Dippy upright and put the receiver to the side of his head.

"Other side, other side," he whispered fretfully. "That's me bum ear." Nigger Mike shifted the rubber thing to the hearing side of Dippy's head and with his lips almost in the transmitter, he croaked:

"She Heard It," All Right.

"Did you hear it, Ray? Well, Gee, you oughter see me now. I'm plugged for fair. Ah! It's good-bye to you and every body else."

Then he collapsed again. But the ambulance surgeon who came after him had to disappoint Dippy. He told him the bullet had only damaged his cheek and that he would get well.

Dippy was just going on the operating table at the Hudson Street Hospital when a taxi cab drove up and stopped, a young woman jumped out.

"Ain't he the crazy thing now?" she said, when they told her Dippy John was there and doing well, "always trying to bump himself off and never getting away with it. Well, so long, tell him I'll be down to see him later. He's bringing something for Christmas," and with that she climbed back in her taxi and went away.

All Rice's people are decent. God, I turned back when he was no more than a shaver. Three years ago, when the luck began to go against him, he shot himself through the ear in a Water street dive. The bullet bounced back. A year later he tried to die in a Chatham Square resort and made a bad job of it. The third attempt was in the Bridge Cafe on the Bowery.

For Constipation And All Attendant Ailments, Take EX-LAX The Sweet Chocolate Laxative Works Quickly. Acts Gently. No Griping or Debilitating After-Effects. FOR ALL AGES. In 10c and 25c Boxes AT ALL DRUGGISTS.

ONE POUND BOXES OLD FASHIONED BOILED SUGAR MINCED CANDY 10c BOILED SUGAR CANDY 13c SPECIAL MINCED CANDY 13c HIGH GRADE HONORS, CHOCOLATES, GLACE FRUIT, ETC. 25c HIGH GRADE ASSORTED CHOCOLATES 25c

FIVE POUND BOXES CHOICE CANDY FOR FAMILY 60c FINE MINCED CANDY, an excellent assortment of delicious collections, 5 pound box 85c HIGH GRADE HONORS, CHOICE CANDY, an assortment of all the choicest, 5 pound box \$1.15 VERY HIGH GRADE HONORS, CHOICE CANDY, an assortment of all the choicest, 40 kinds 5 pound box \$1.75

IMPORTED FRENCH GLACE FRUITS, NEW CROP JUST ARRIVED, 5-POUND BOXES \$1.59 SPECIAL OFFER TO SUNDAY SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, ETC. COMMITTEES GLADLY WAITED ON EVEN THOUGH NOT READY TO PURCHASE.

30 POUNDS OF "METROPOLITAN" MIXTURE ABSOLUTELY PURE, WHOLESOME CANDY, AND 60 HALF-POUND BOXES, FOR 30 POUNDS OF THAT OLD FASHIONED "BOILED SUGAR MIXTURE," AND 60 HALF-POUND BOXES, FOR \$2.40 \$3.00

ALL OUR STORES OPEN TO-NIGHT UNTIL MIDNIGHT All Our Stores Closed Christmas Day.

LAST CANDY CALL—To assure you will be the last to see the candy, call now at 147 Nassau street, 5 stories up. The specified weight in each package is guaranteed.

54 BARCLAY ST. 29 NASSAU ST. 206 BROADWAY 147 NASSAU ST. 5 stories up.

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SAT DOWN TO WAIT FOR POLICE AFTER SHE STOLE \$1,600

Thousand-Dollar Bill in Immigrant's Roll a Sure Give-away, Pickpocket Knew.

Otto Michaels, thirty-five years old and yellow haired, came over from Germany last week on his way West to buy a farm. He stepped temporarily at No. 87 East Twenty-first street. He had his savings converted into American money, and last night when he left the boarding house and started out to do the Tenderloin he was carrying in his hip pocket a roll containing one \$1,000 bill, one \$500 bill and one \$100 bill.

He blocked into a black and tan resort at Thirtieth street and Seventh avenue and proceeded to cut loose. Half an hour later Otto tore into the West Thirty-seventh street station sputtering like a pin wheel mad in Germany. His pocket had been picked and his roll was gone.

The entire plain clothes force of the precinct—Riley, Curran, Beale and Moriarity—went out to recover Otto Michaels' fortune for him. They found Lizzie Smith, a negroess, waiting in an attitude of expectancy in her room at No. 53 Sixth avenue.

"I knowed all de peccole in de world would be comin' round for'ing to git me," said Lizzie in a tone of resignation. "I des been settin' heah waitin' fur you."

Lizzie had \$200 of the money. On the strength of what she told them the detectives rounded up two other negro women—Lizzie Shepherd of No. 148 West Forty-first street and Alice Yates of No. 159 West Thirtieth street. These two had the rest of the Michaels money down to the last cent.

"Judge," said Lizzie Smith to Magistrate Appleton in the Jefferson Market Police Court today, "when I skinned the cover off'n dat little roll and seen it was a thousand dollar bill, I turned jes as white as you is y'es'er. I didn't know they was dat much money."

"I wanted to take it right back to dat man, but these heath other two woman talk me out of it and we split up. But I didn't have no confidence in nobody. I w'd dat much money layin' round, I des says to mal'ser, 'Come on Mistah Perlice, come on and git me.' And dey came and got me."

The Magistrate held all three of the women in bonds of \$1,000 each.

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FAST TRAIN KILLS WOMAN; HUSBAND SEES HER DIE.

GIEN FALLS, N. Y., Dec. 23.—While Mrs. Burt Porter was waiting with her husband and son at the Tietz and Hudson station in Port Edward for a train to take them to Peru, Clinton County, for a Christmas visit she was struck and instantly killed by a New York express.



Soft White Hands

Red, rough hands on retiring usually become soft, white hands on rising through this simple and economical "one night" treatment: Bathe and soak the hands on retiring, in a strong, hot lather of Cuticura Soap. Dry and anoint freely with Cuticura Ointment, and wear during the night old, loose gloves, or a light bandage to protect the clothing. Most effective for chapped, itching, burning and bleeding hands.

Send to Potter, Truitt & Co., Boston, for free book on care of the skin.

DIAMONDS on Credit CHRISTMAS PRESENTS Diamonds, Watches - GOLD JEWELRY Largest assortment of diamonds, watches, and gold jewelry. All goods guaranteed. Call, write or phone 5007 Cortlandt.